UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/512
18 October 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 41

SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 50/133 of 20 December 1995, the General Assembly welcomed the first, comprehensive report on the ways and mechanisms in which the United Nations system could support the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (A/50/332 and Corr.1) and commended the activities undertaken at the request of Governments to support the efforts to consolidate democracy, as reflected in the report. The resolution, inter alia, encouraged the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States in their efforts to achieve the goal of democratization and requested me to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on its implementation. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

2. The present report documents developments that have occurred since the issuance of the first report in the promotion of a democratic culture, including the provision of electoral assistance and the building of institutions for democracy (sect. II), and should be read in conjunction with that report. As requested in resolution 50/133, the present report also contains reflections on innovative ways and means that would enable the Organization to respond effectively and in an integrated manner to requests of Member States for assistance in the field (sect. III) and some brief concluding observations and recommendations (sect. IV).

3. As did the first report on this subject, the present report derives from the First and Second International Conferences on New or Restored Democracies, held respectively in Manila in 1988 and in Managua in 1994. The Managua Declaration and Plan of Action specifically asked the Secretary-General to study the ways and means by which the United Nations system could be of assistance to new or restored democracies. It is hoped that the reports will be of use in the deliberations in the Third International Conference of New and Restored Democracies, which is to be held in Bucharest in 1997.

4. As indicated in the first report, the United Nations system does not promote any specific form of Government. Democracy is not a strict model to be copied, but a goal to be attained. It may take many forms, depending on the characteristics and circumstances of cultures and societies. That is why, in the present as in the first report, no attempt is made to define democracy but reference is made to democratization.

5. The term "democratization" is used here to denote a process by which an authoritarian society becomes increasingly participatory. Mechanisms by which this may be achieved include periodic elections to representative bodies, a free press, an independent judiciary and a transparent and accountable public administration. It is inherent in this concept of democratization that it does not necessarily lead immediately to a fully democratic society. That goal may be attained only gradually. The pace at which democratization can proceed is dependent on many political, economic, social and cultural factors, some of which may not be susceptible to rapid change.

6. The United Nations stands ready to assist States in this process of democratization, when requested to do so by a Member State, and in ways agreed upon by the Government of that State.

II. PROMOTING A DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

7. For the process of democratization to take place certain conditions must be met, beginning with the existence of political will for democratization throughout the society. The means for citizens to participate democratically in the decision-making processes can vary, but normally include their participation in free and fair elections, their freedom to associate and form political parties and their full access to information, provided by independent media. The United Nations can assist States to put in place the institutions and mechanisms of democracy, but action to strengthen the underlying culture of democracy, expressed through a developed and articulate civil society and a political culture of participation and consultation, may be equally necessary.

8. There are two broad contexts in which the United Nations system can be asked by Member States to help promote and consolidate democratic culture and society. This section provides examples from both contexts.

9. The first context is the Organization's peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building activities. The majority of the conflicts in which the United Nations currently undertakes such activities are internal conflicts. Their cause sometimes lies in political, economic and social systems from which important sectors of the population feel alienated. In such cases agreed measures to establish more participatory systems have formed part of negotiated peace settlements. In other cases, where the conflict has more the character of a struggle for power between rival factions, democratic elections have formed an essential part of the peace settlement. In helping to negotiate and implement such settlements and in subsequent efforts to help the country to consolidate the peace thus achieved, the United Nations has found itself asked to undertake a number of activities that have had the effect of promoting a democratic culture.

10. The second context is the Organization's more general efforts to promote human development by helping Member States to provide more equitable and effective governance to their peoples and by strengthening civil society. As was made clear in An Agenda for Development (A/48/935), improving and enhancing governance is an essential condition for the success of any strategy for development. Indeed, United Nations assistance in this area is predicated on the belief that governance may be the single most important development variable within the control of individual States. A vigorous civil society is also indispensable to creating long-lasting and successful social development. Social development, if it is to take hold, must spring from society itself. Non-governmental organizations, community organizations, private enterprise, workers' organizations and other groups should all be actively involved. Therefore, in countries where civil society is weak, strengthening civil society is a priority of United Nations assistance.

A. Political parties, movements and the mobilization of a civil society

11. Political parties and movements are an essential component in the democratization process. United Nations experience in supporting them has come from involvement in multidimensional peace operations; the Organization has facilitated, inter alia, the transformation of rebel armed movements into established political parties in Cambodia, El Salvador and Mozambique. As was noted in the first report, however, training programmes for political party members are sometimes better carried out by other actors such as non-governmental organizations.

12. In Mozambique assistance to political parties was provided through a Trust Fund for Political Parties established by the Electoral Division of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ). Within the overall support of the international community for the transition of Mozambique from prolonged civil war to peace and reconstruction, that assistance played a particularly positive role in the transformation of the Resistência Nacional de Moçambique (RENAMO) into a political party. In preparation for the elections of October 1994, the Electoral Division also established a political party monitoring programme involving training and disbursement of subsidies. On the election days themselves approximately 30,000 political party monitors were stationed at polling stations.

13. The United Nations system is engaged increasingly in strengthening civil society. Within that context, trade union organizations and movements have a fundamental role to play. The International Labour Organization (ILO) has concentrated its assistance to workers' organizations on enhancing the capacity of trade unions to carry out their traditional functions of providing services to their members and promoting workers' interests through tripartite dialogue. During the biennium 1994-1995, emphasis was placed on providing trade unions with information about the role that they could play in ILO with respect to the adoption and supervision of international labour standards and the promotion of the principles of tripartism and workers' participation. To that end, a regional seminar on the role of workers' representatives in ILO was held in Abidjan.

14. Non-governmental organizations are also important partners of the United Nations and a major force in the democratization and development efforts in many new or restored democracies. Today a considerable share of development assistance is channelled through non-governmental organizations. Experience has shown that while direct support from donors to non-governmental organizations, an increasing phenomenon, can promote and support the growth of a civil society, there are instances in which this growth can also be hindered by such support if it is inconsistent with other initiatives. There is therefore a need to coordinate the sometimes disjointed actions of donors, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and Governments in this regard.

15. A recent example of United Nations activities in strengthening civil society through support for non-governmental organizations can be found in Guatemala. The Joint Unit of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement

on Human Rights (MINUGUA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) conducted a study on non-governmental organizations in order to provide a detailed directory of the latter in Guatemala. The study also helped to identify more clearly what activities the non-governmental organizations needed to undertake in order to enhance their technical capacity for filing lawsuits related to human rights and their capacity for administrative and financial management. There are already signs of an increasingly important role for non-governmental human rights bodies in the peace and democratization process in Guatemala.

16. This support for Guatemalan non-governmental organizations should be seen within the wider context of the United Nations support of the involvement of civil society in new forms of governance in the Central American peace and democratization process. United Nations efforts in that regard began in the context of the peace process in Nicaragua, where the active role of civil society has been an important guarantee of political stability. Subsequently, through the establishment of a Central American Multidisciplinary Advisory Team in San José, ILO initiated a programme in which one of the principle objectives has been the expansion of national machinery and capacities for social bargaining and dialogue. In addition, ILO advised the United Nations Moderator of the Guatemalan peace negotiations during discussions of the identity and rights of indigenous peoples. The resulting Agreement, which was signed in March 1995, derives from ILO Convention No. 169 and addresses a range of issues concerning indigenous peoples and their full participation in Guatemalan life, including education, land rights, gender and common law.

B. Electoral assistance

17. In the first report on new and restored democracies, the seven basic forms of electoral assistance provided by the United Nations were described in detail: (a) organization and conduct of elections; (b) supervision; (c) verification; (d) coordination and support for international observers; (e) support for national election observers; (f) technical assistance; and (g) observation. The type of assistance to be provided is determined after a needs assessment mission has evaluated the conditions for the conduct of viable elections, assessed the basic electoral needs and discussed with the Government and the electoral authority what form of United Nations assistance is most appropriate. The first three types of assistance are exceptions to the normal practice. They are expensive and require major missions and the approval of either the Security Council or the General Assembly. They have generally been undertaken in the context of broader peacekeeping operations. The most frequent form of assistance is technical, involving one or two consultants for a specific project over one or two months.

18. The first report provided a detailed list of electoral operations categorized by types of assistance. Annex I to the present report is an updated list, including new electoral operations not included in the first report. In addition, the tables and charts in annex II give a graphic illustration of the comprehensive nature of United Nations activities in this field. In the period between August 1995 and July 1996, the United Nations received 25 new requests for electoral assistance. In addition, the United Nations Transitional

Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES), established on 15 January 1996 by the Security Council in its resolution 1037 (1996), was given a mandate to organize elections, assist in their conduct, and to certify the results.

19. The Head of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat is the United Nations Focal Point for Electoral Assistance Activities and in that capacity advises the Secretary-General on the responses to be given to requests for electoral assistance. The Focal Point also coordinates the electoral assistance activities of the many other United Nations entities and agencies that are involved at various stages. An example given below describes the cooperation of the Department of Political Affairs and UNDP in Africa, where, as part of the United Nations system's Special Initiative for Africa, launched earlier in 1996, UNDP is increasing its support for democratization and electoral processes to more than half the countries on that continent.

20. In Sierra Leone presidential and parliamentary elections were held on 26 February 1996, with a second round of presidential elections on 15 March. These elections restored democratic rule in Sierra Leone and have been an important factor in efforts to control and resolve the conflict in that country. The initial request for electoral assistance was received in 1994 and, following a Department of Political Affairs/UNDP needs assessment mission, a UNDP project was elaborated in order to provide technical assistance to the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone. During 1995, two donor conferences were organized in New York and experts in various fields, such as electoral systems and election administration, were sent to the country. Following a decision by the Government of Sierra Leone to invite international observers for the election, the Department of Political Affairs established a small secretariat in Freetown. This secretariat provided coordination and support for the work of international observers present for the final phase of the electoral process.

21. The most extensive electoral assistance in the context of democratization processes was provided for Cambodia from 1991 to 1993. That assistance, which culminated in elections in 1993, consisted of civic education and training; the elaboration of an appropriate legal framework; the drafting of electoral laws; the registration of voters, parties and candidates; the vote count; and verification. My Special Representative on Human Rights for Cambodia and my Representative in Cambodia continue to hold regular consultations with leaders of political parties as part of their efforts to assist the integration of Cambodians in the democratization process. The United Nations Human Rights Centre in Phnom Penh also assists with technical, educational and advisory services and with training in the administration of justice.

22. More recent activities in the area of United Nations electoral assistance include Azerbaijan and Haiti. In Azerbaijan, following a June 1995 request to the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) for the parliamentary elections scheduled for 12 November 1995, a joint needs assessment mission was sent to the country. As a result of this mission, a Joint Electoral Observation Mission in Azerbaijan was established to observe the electoral process as well as to coordinate and support the activities of international observers. The mission set up its headquarters in Baku, with regional offices in Ganja and Nakhichevan, and dispatched observers to cities

and villages throughout the country. On election day itself, the mission deployed over 100 international observers from 25 countries; for the 26 November run-off elections the mission fielded over 20 observers.

23. The United Nations overall efforts to promote and consolidate democracy in Haiti included the establishment, at the request of the Government of Haiti, of a technical team, as part of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), to provide technical assistance to the Provisional Electoral Council. In preparation for legislative elections held in June, August and September 1995 and the presidential elections of December 1995, the technical team coordinated a large civic education programme and undertook, inter alia, the preparation of an electoral budget and coordination of financial support through a United Nations trust fund established for that purpose; preparation of an operational and logistical plan, and assistance in its implementation; and support in the design of a communication plan and a deployment plan for registration and voting periods.

C. Free and independent media

24. The Department of Public Information has continued to encourage the development of a free and responsible press as an essential element for effective democratization through its series of regional seminars on promoting pluralistic and independent media. These seminars are organized by the Department in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and supported by UNDP and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, as well as Governments, national development agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

25. Four such seminars have been held since 1991 for the African, Asian, Latin American and Caribbean, and Arab media. The latter, held in Sana'a in January 1996, brought together some 150 journalists, media owners, representatives of regional press organizations and media experts. It focused on the needs and concerns of media professionals in the region and allowed participants to reflect collectively on the principles of press freedom and democratization in the context of Arab society. The next regional seminar is planned for the Central and Eastern European media in 1997.

26. UNDP is also continuing to encourage a broader flow of objective public information on social and economic structural reforms and freedom of expression through the mass media. In Kyrgyzstan, UNDP, together with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNESCO, is training journalists to report on financial, business and social issues. Nearly 100 journalists have taken courses on business and economic reporting, ethics of journalism, media freedom and reporting on such subjects as environment, women and illegal narcotics. English language training, organized for 55 people, led to broader coverage of international events. Over 30 journalists gained computer skills. On-the-job training in contemporary news gathering and audio-visual production techniques was also provided, while radio and television studios were set up and equipped.

D. Building a political culture through human rights observance and monitoring

27. The transition from authoritarianism to greater participation in political decision-making requires long-term efforts. An important part of that process is the gradual introduction into civil society of a new culture of greater respect for human rights and their codification to prevent violations in the future.

28. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has established that priority for technical cooperation in this field must be given to countries that are beginning the transition to democracy. Assistance provided in the process of democratization is focused on the incorporation of international human rights standards into national laws and policies and on the building or strengthening of national institutions capable of protecting and promoting human rights and democracy under the rule of law.

29. The High Commissioner has endeavoured to strengthen technical cooperation programmes, including the promotion of democratic institutions, development of human rights, human rights support to parliament, constitutional assistance and human rights training for peacekeeping operations and international civil servants. Assistance has also been given to support non-governmental organizations and the development of civil society, legislative reform and the administration of justice, strengthening national human rights institutions, the conduct of free and fair elections and the training of police and prison officers. Other activities also continue to receive considerable attention, such as assistance on specific human rights issues, including the implementation of comprehensive national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights, popular participation in decision-making and implementation of projects relating to economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.

30. Under mandates of the General Assembly, both MINUGUA and the joint United Nations/Organization of American States (OAS) International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH) contribute to the building of democratic culture in those countries. Verification of human rights violations is accompanied by concrete recommendations of how those violations may be addressed. Human rights observers also work alongside national institutions and contribute to a greater awareness of the importance of human rights as a basis for democratization.

31. Because of the importance of human rights in the Organization's peace operations, training and training materials are provided by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. For instance, a training course on peacekeeping, human rights and humanitarian assistance for military and civilian police trainers was organized by the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the ILO International Training Centre in spring 1996. This was the first effort of the Centre and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to combine parallel training efforts of military and civilian trainers. The new approach was necessitated by increasingly complex

peacekeeping mandates, often including personnel to monitor civil affairs and institution-building.

E. Improving accountability, transparency and quality of public sector management and democratic structures of government

32. Member States increasingly ask the United Nations system to provide assistance in institution-building and governance. Key concerns addressed in the process - as discussed in detail in the first report - are political legitimacy, accountability and transparency; freedom of association and participation; a fair and reliable judiciary; bureaucratic accountability; freedom of information and expression; effective and efficient public sector management; and interaction with organizations of civil society. The United Nations system is active in the provision of assistance for institution-building and governance in these and other areas.

33. The process of democratization involves a review of existing governmental structures and functions with a view to improving the capacity and efficiency of the executive branch, the legislature and the judiciary, as well as improving the relationship between the state, regional and local levels of government. The accountability of public officials is at the core of a democratic form of governance, though institutions and techniques to ensure accountability can vary. While periodic elections allow the electorate to hold officials accountable, other institutions also have an important role to play. The accountability of the executive branch to elected bodies should be increased and its actions should be transparent and subject to effective scrutiny. A later section of the present report describes measures undertaken by the United Nations system to strengthen public administration in development (see paras. 58 to 62).

34. Active in 90 countries, the UNDP management development programmes assist Governments in designing and carrying out long-term, strategic programmes to improve public sector management. Examples of UNDP governance programmes include decentralization programmes in Bhutan, Nepal, Thailand, Papua New Guinea and Morocco; public sector reform and capacity-development in Georgia, Lesotho, Kuwait and Pakistan; strengthening parliaments in Bangladesh, the Gambia, Burundi, Sierra Leone and Mozambique; and strengthening the legal and judicial systems in Bolivia and Bhutan. The common thread among these programmes is that they all contribute to developing the capacity for democratic governance and related institutions.

35. The World Bank does not distinguish between the various forms of political regime of countries in lending decisions. While it defines governance as the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development, it draws a clear distinction between the concept's political and economic dimensions. The Bank's concern with governance is its centrality to social and economic development, especially, and to sustainable poverty reduction. The major part of the Bank's assistance for governance is in the field of public sector management but it is also encourages greater transparency and accountability in general.

36. The principal instruments for the Bank are loans and credits, in the form of quick disbursing balance-of-payments support for an economic reform programme or an emergency reconstruction programme, conventional investment projects and technical assistance projects. All of these instruments may be used to support governance and public sector management improvements. In addition, the Bank has a grant window, the Institutional Development Fund (IDF), which supports catalytic activities up to a ceiling of $500,000 and which has increasingly been used for governance work. The Bank also supports governance through policy advice in its dialogue with individual countries and in economic and other reports prepared for Governments.

37. In Latin America, as in many other regions, the democratization process in the past decade has coincided with expectations that Governments will be more responsive to the demands of citizens and conduct their business in a more transparent manner. This has been manifested in a desire for greater citizen involvement in government decision-making and the reduction of corruption at all levels of government. State reform has proceeded in two stages. The first has been driven by the need to restore macroeconomic balance, through the reduction of fiscal deficits, balance-of-payments adjustment and privatization. The second stage, now under way in most countries, comprises the longer-term institutional adjustments needed to consolidate and sustain earlier reforms. The Bank's support for the modernization of the State in the past decade has taken such forms as modernization of tax administration, civil service reform and financial management reform. In several Central American countries recently emerged from conflict (e.g. Nicaragua and El Salvador), the Bank's support for public sector modernization has spanned many of these categories. Across the region, in both federal and unitary States, the Bank has been engaged heavily in supporting decentralization.

38. In Africa, another region where political change has been extensive, the thrust of the Bank's work has been to rebuild capacity, both in government and more indirectly, in the institutions of civil society that support good governance. As in Latin America, the initial requirement has been macroeconomic reform. But with far greater dysfunction in the public sector, the emphasis has been on addressing the collapse of capacity in areas like the civil service and government financial management. In some countries (e.g. Ghana), those efforts have been long running, and are being re-launched. In others (e.g. Ethiopia), the dialogue is at an early stage. In Mali, the Bank facilitated a major workshop on institutional reform in the public sector and supported a service delivery survey that has helped focus reform on the need for results on the ground. In South Africa, the Bank has been providing advice in areas like budgeting and decentralization.

39. In Asia, the Bank has recently completed, with local involvement, a major study on the reform of government in Bangladesh that includes a diagnosis of the ways in which corruption undermines governance and how it may be combated. In Nepal, the Bank has helped improve public expenditure management, and with a succession of IDF grants, it has supported the strengthening of accounting and audit capacity. In addition, the Bank is assisting the Government in bringing its procurement procedures into line with current best practice. In Mongolia, technical assistance has been provided for legal reform, with training of

justice ministry staff, and the modernization of commercial sections of the civil code.

40. In Eastern and Central Europe and in successor States of the former Soviet Union, the Bank's governance work has focused on helping countries build the institutional framework for a market economy. An early emphasis of the Bank's work in the former Soviet Union was helping Governments put in place machinery for: the preparation and implementation of budgets; the coordination of external assistance; and the introduction of modern procurement codes. In the Baltic States, the Bank has worked closely with UNDP in creating institutions for the management of the market economy. More recently, the Bank has been assisting with the establishment of a modern civil service (diagnostic studies in Poland, Bulgaria and the Republic of Moldova). In the Russian Federation, the Bank recently approved a major legal reform project, providing support in the areas of legal drafting, legal information, legal education and public education campaigns, and judicial reform and alternative dispute resolution.

41. The Department of Development Support and Management Services of the Secretariat also works extensively in the area of public administration and governance. It is currently implementing a regional project in Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) that seeks to develop and enhance democracy and governance, contribute to the role and vitality of civil society and build appropriate mechanisms for popular participation. Since September 1995, the project has conducted major assessment missions in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. Those missions were to analyse the technical assistance requirements of Governments for specific governance objectives in order to identify areas where there is potential for United Nations support. They have resulted in the formulation of projects to establish ombudsman institutions and human rights centres in the Republic of Moldova, Uzbekistan and more recently in Azerbaijan; to computerize the judicial system in Belarus; to support and strengthen traditional community-based organizations in Bulgaria; and to strengthen the capacity of the foreign ministry and civil society institutions in Azerbaijan and Ukraine.

42. Decentralization is sometimes an answer chosen by a Government to bring more effectiveness to governmental functions and/or to establish a more participatory form of administration. Among the many countries in which UNDP has been active in the area of decentralization is Nepal, where decentralization gained momentum following the election of a democratic Government in 1990. UNDP support initially helped local government officials in selected districts engage in constructive dialogue with central authorities on appropriate use of district-level resources. Now, in addition to instilling capacity for effective planning, the UNDP-supported participatory district development programme is building up local capacity to implement development activities through village organizations that serve as effective counterparts and watchdogs for local government institutions. This approach involves people directly in planning, building and maintaining roads, drinking-water and sanitation facilities and infrastructure for electricity and irrigation. The result has been a considerable improvement in basic infrastructure in the 20 participating districts and there is a strong demand to expand the programme to all of Nepal's 75 districts.

43. A large number of countries that are introducing democratic political and/or market economic structures are liberalizing the rules governing trade union organization and labour disputes and are beginning to use collective bargaining to determine wages and working conditions. In so doing, they request assistance from ILO in the form of information and advice on the organization of these activities. During the biennium 1994-1995, seminars and round tables on labour relations in general and social dialogue, collective bargaining or the settlement of labour disputes in particular, were organized in a number of countries, including Hungary, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Eritrea, Malawi and Zambia.

F. Enhancing the rule of law

44. For democratization to become a reality, the rule of law must prevail. Political pluralism cannot prosper until efficient legal institutions are established.

45. In order to function effectively, a legal system must include not only adequate legislation but also an efficient institutional infrastructure for the design and administration of the law. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has therefore been giving increasing attention to the need to extend legal assistance to the establishment of institutions and procedures that can ensure the proper conception, administration and enforcement of legislation. The need for such extended legal assistance is particularly felt in countries with economies in transition. In this connection, the IMF Legal Department, in cooperation with the IMF Institute (a training institute), prepared a programme on financial sector legislation for presentation at the Fund's Joint Vienna Institute (also a training body) in June 1995 for judges and legislators of countries with economies in transition.

46. In Rwanda, after years of civil upheaval, the Department of Development Support and Management Services is working to restore law and order through attention to the justice system. Its programme has components that address the proper functioning of the courts, prisons and judicial police, and civic education. A short-term action programme aims to provide an immediate response to the severe overcrowding and poor conditions in the prisons and detention centres. The Department has been involved in providing technical advisers and equipment to facilitate investigations and to train magistrates and court officers to re-establish a functioning court system. It has also provided assistance in civil service reform.

47. Efforts to enhance the rule of law will only prove effective if they are undertaken in tandem with measures that ensure the provision of security, through adequate crime control and effective justice. United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programmes are being developed to provide States with technical assistance and advisory services in criminal justice, including modern communications techniques and training. They assist States in identifying their crime prevention and criminal justice needs and in addressing them through technical cooperation in the area of legal reform, including the elaboration of criminal codes and other legislative measures. The programmes also assist States in fighting transnational crime, including organized criminal

activity, economic and environmental criminality and money-laundering. These activities are carried out by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat, the Interregional Adviser for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, based at Vienna, and the Regional Adviser for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

48. The Centre for Human Rights has many years of experience in training law enforcement officials. When the Palestinian Authority requested assistance following a successful policy training programme organized by the Centre, a comprehensive programme was developed, which includes, among other components, training and curriculum development for judges, lawyers, prosecutors, police and prison personnel. The programme aims at strengthening key institutions and the laws and policies that are vital to the maintenance of the rule of law. This programme was developed and will be carried out in close cooperation with the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories and many other United Nations agency and donor projects in the Palestinian territories.

49. In some instances, new institutions, such as those responsible for the defence of human rights, may be founded with United Nations support. The strategy of the Centre for Human Rights programme of technical cooperation is to develop and utilize its in-house expertise and training resources to help create and strengthen democratic structures of government and existing and newly created national institutions for human rights. Training and capacity development of national institutions has been carried out by the Centre during the last year on the regional level in Africa, Asia, CIS, Central and Eastern Europe, Latvia and on a State level in Argentina, South Africa, Malawi, often in close cooperation with UNDP and regional organizations such as OSCE.

50. It is essential for a democratic society that the military be respectful of human rights. The Centre organized two training courses for senior military instructors in the ILO International Training Centre in Turin in 1996. In cooperation with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, San Remo, the first course addressed senior military instructors from the Balkan region, and the second was for the Lusophone African States. Materials produced for this training exercise will be further used for continued efforts to support the development of national human rights training capacities in military institutions, as well as methodologies on how human rights issues could be most effectively integrated into the normal training of military personnel.

III. IMPROVING THE CAPACITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

A. Coordinating and strengthening the governance programmes in the United Nations system

51. In the first report on new or restored democracies it was recommended that the Secretariat and all agencies increase their cooperation in the area of institution-building and governance (A/50/332, para. 127). Since then, the Administrative Committee on Coordination has taken an important initiative

towards fulfilling the crucial goal of improving efficiency and coordination while avoiding duplication in this field.

52. The Administrative Committee on Coordination recently established three task forces to support countries' implementation of commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development and other recent global conferences. The Task Force on an Enabling Environment for Economic and Social Development, with the World Bank serving as lead agency, has a subgroup on capacity-building for governance chaired by UNDP. The subgroup will carry out a study of the best practices related to governance capacity-development in various agencies, prepare a consolidated report and disseminate this information to interested individuals in donor organizations and developing countries.

53. In order to improve the effectiveness of governance programmes in the development area of the United Nations system, they should be properly coordinated with the work of the departments and offices concerned with the peace and democratization agendas of the Organization. As stated in the first report, and as is clear from section II of the present report, many activities and programmes in institution-building and governance in the development field - whether their ultimate purpose is to enhance accountability, transparency, free flow of information, or full participation and the rule of law - are as crucial for a successful democratization process to take place as they are for promoting sustainable development. At the same time, the work of the departments that have the lead role in preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peace-building and humanitarian affairs includes many aspects of governance, whether in a preventive, emergency, negotiation or post-conflict context.

54. Since 1995, in addition to the extensive ongoing activities in the area of governance outlined above, individual United Nations agencies, programmes, funds and offices have also strengthened their governance programmes and introduced policy changes to operate more efficiently. There have been, for example, significant efforts by UNDP to follow up on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/133 of 20 December 1995 adopted in response to the first report on new or restored democracies (A/50/332). These efforts have been undertaken primarily in three areas: (a) improvement of UNDP internal capacity to respond effectively to requests to support the strengthening of democratization; (b) leadership of components of United Nations system-wide special initiatives on governance; and (c) an expanded number of programmes and projects in governance and areas related to democratization.

55. Measures to improve UNDP's internal capacity include training programmes for UNDP staff and national counterparts in governance; support for international workshops to exchange experience and increase awareness about democratic governance programmes (e.g. governance innovations in Manila, seminar for parliamentarians in Ouagadougou and governance for sustainable human development in New York); the preparation of a UNDP governance policy paper to provide clear direction and guidance to managers and operational staff; and the creation of a UNDP management development and governance home page on the World Wide Web that includes a Management and Governance Network (MAGNET) to exchange knowledge, information and experience about democratic governance within UNDP and among its development partners.

56. There have also been significant organizational changes to make UNDP more responsive to requests to support democratic governance, including the reorganization of the principal field backstopping unit, the Management Development and Governance Division into teams that include participatory governance, capacity-development and decentralization. In addition, the Administrator has established an agency-wide task force on governance to expand in-house communication and information on governance. UNDP is also establishing regional networks linking country offices with regional experts and practitioners interested or involved in governance programmes.

57. In response to the rapid growth in requests for UNDP support to democratic governance programmes and projects the focus on governance has been incorporated in the new five-year (1997-2001) UNDP country cooperation framework documents of many countries. New and proposed activities vary greatly depending upon the needs of individual countries. However, there has been a substantial increase in requests for support to reform and strengthen the capacity of democratic institutions, such as organizational units of the executive branch of government, parliaments, judiciaries, media and civil society organizations, and to provide assistance for electoral processes.

B. Strengthening public administration in development

58. The role of the United Nations in new or restored democracies as well as in post-conflict, post-election or mid-transition conditions was underlined by the General Assembly during its resumed fiftieth session on public administration and development, in April 1996. The session was convened pursuant to resolution 49/136 of 19 December 1994, in which the General Assembly decided to re-examine the role of public administration in development.

59. On that occasion the General Assembly responded to drastic changes that are rapidly transforming the role and scope of government in the economy and society: the globalization of the economy, democratization, environmental pressures, corruption, national fiscal and external deficits, pressures for social justice, the information revolution and the emergence of civil society as an alternative supplier of a range of public services. These trends have increased the complexity of government at a time when faith in Governments' ability to govern is low and there are pressures to reduce public expenditures, in particular by reducing the scope of the State's activities and transferring its functions to the private sector where they are subject to market competition.

60. In its resolution 50/225 of 19 April 1996, adopted by the General Assembly at the close of the resumed session, the Assembly recognized that there exist challenges and trends variously facing national Governments in the field of public administration. It reaffirmed that democracy and transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society were indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development and that Governments in all countries should promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, bearing in mind the interdependent and mutually reinforcing

relationship between democracy, development and respect for human rights, and should make public institutions more responsive to people's needs.

61. The Assembly also acknowledged that the role of United Nations activities and programmes in public administration and development was to assist Governments, at their request, to improve their responsiveness to meet the basic needs of all, as well as to achieve sustainable development in all countries; recommended that the Secretary-General take appropriate measures in order to ensure maximum coordination of activities of the United Nations system in the field of public administration and development; and called upon the Secretary-General to ensure ways of strengthening the coordination, coherence and harmonization of the management and implementation of the operational activities of the United Nations system in the field of public administration and development.

62. In response to specific requests from new and restored democracies, the Department for Development Support and Management Services, which was responsible for preparing the resumed session, has given special emphasis to two new programmes: (a) democracy, governance and participation; and (b) capacity-building, that is, institutional reinforcement and human resource development. One major concern has been the complex task of redefining government in ways that open windows of opportunity both for the private sector and for civil society, in general, while broadening the areas of cooperation between them. Such concerns have been reflected in a series of regional meetings some of which were organized in preparation for the resumed session of the General Assembly. They included:

(a) A conference sponsored by the Department in Berlin in January 1996 on the role of public administration in the economic transition of new or restored democracies attended by 16 Eastern European and CIS countries as well as by representatives of several international organizations and multilateral programmes;

(b) A UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS Task Force Meeting on Democracy, Governance and Participation for countries in transition, held in Kiev in April 1996. Most Member States from Eastern and Central Europe and CIS, as well as United Nations agencies and other major donor organizations, took part in this second task force meeting;

(c) A subregional workshop on ombudsman institutions in the Republic of Moldova in May 1996 for 13 CIS and Eastern European countries with Western European and North American counterparts;

(d) A colloquium organized by the Department in Warsaw in May 1996 on metropolitan and municipal governance focused on strategic planning and administrative change at the local level, including capacity-building, to support government's new role as a facilitator of market-led economies.

C. Cooperation with representatives of civil society and academia

63. The inclusion of civil society, not only in consolidating democratization, but also in acting as a partner in development activities, is more noticeable in the work of the United Nations system today. Transparent and accountable governance and administration, working together with civil society, also enhances opportunities for trade and investment. In the light of the above, in pursuance of the objective of sustainable development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) broadened its scope of activities to encompass new aspects, approaches and dimensions of development in its work programme, including the provision of a new role for civil society in development.

64. As a new approach to the implementation of its objectives, the ninth session of UNCTAD reaffirmed the importance of involving non-governmental actors in the activities of the organization. UNCTAD continues to take into account their views by inviting them to participate, as appropriate, in an advisory capacity at public meetings and to involve them in its activities, but the Conference also requested its Secretary-General to pursue consultations with civil society and report with recommendations to the Trade and Development Board. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD will convene a meeting with actors in development to advise on how to enhance the participation of civil society in UNCTAD to build a lasting partnership for development between non-governmental actors and UNCTAD.

65. After the issuance of the first report on new or restored democracies, the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo initiated planning for its research programme on democratization. In 1996, aspiring to play a leading role in the study of democracy, UNU launched a project on democracy entitled "The changing nature of democracy". It addresses the question of the diversity of democracy and re-evaluates the processes of democratization and democratic consolidation, as well as the roles of democratic institutions in promoting fundamental human values such as peace, human rights and development.

66. At the project's first international conference at Oxford University in July 1996, a group of scholars assembled from all over the world examined the nature of diverse democracies in an attempt to establish a solid conceptual and analytical framework for further work in the area. Thereafter, four research groups will evaluate various democracies in the Middle East, Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa. At the project's concluding symposium, an attempt will be made to conceptualize democracy anew and categorize various democracies according to the findings gained through the workshops. The symposium will seek to produce policy prescriptions and recommendations on the roles of democracies in promoting the purpose of the United Nations. Once the project is completed, it will be brought to the attention of the United Nations system and the international community for consideration and action.

67. In the preparatory process of the two reports of the Secretary-General on new or restored democracies a number of seminars were held, bringing together leading scholars and representatives of Governments, the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, the business sector and civil society. The goal

has been to identify problems, themes and recommendations related to democratization that could be further elaborated and brought to the attention of the international community. It is intended to continue those contacts and exchanges of views with organizations and groups of civil society in particular. From the seminars, as well as from discussions on the same subject with representatives of Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, a number of reflections, additional to those in the earlier report, have emerged regarding the modalities of transition from an authoritarian society to a more participatory, democratic form of government. These observations are discussed below, earlier recommendations are elaborated upon and some suggestions offered for consideration by the General Assembly.

IV. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

68. In these times of acute financial crisis, it should be recalled that the Organization's capacity to respond to the requests of Member States to consolidate and promote new and restored democracies may often be limited by the lack of adequate funding. In some instances trust funds have been established to finance particular aspects of a democratic transition. In Haiti, for example, the trust fund is being used to support the institutional transformation of the Haitian National Police. Thanks are due to those Member States who have contributed to this and other trust funds in support of the Organization's democratization efforts, while Member States are encouraged to consider further ways and means by which funding may be found for the important tasks of consolidating and promoting new and restored democracies.

69. In discussing the need to coordinate and strengthen governance programmes in the United Nations system (paras. 51 to 53 above), it was reported that the Administrative Committee on Coordination, in line with the recommendation made in the first report, has undertaken an important initiative to increase cooperation in the area of institution-building and governance by establishing a subgroup on capacity-building for governance, chaired by UNDP. It is recommended that the work of the subgroup, including the study mentioned in paragraph 52, should gradually be developed and expanded to a system-wide blueprint in order to integrate and coordinate all the activities of the United Nations system in this field more effectively.

70. In paragraphs 58 to 62 of the present report, reference was made to the resumed session of the General Assembly on public administration and development in April 1996. In the resolution adopted at the end of the session the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to intensify his coordination efforts in that field within the United Nations system. Pursuant to the request contained in resolution 50/225, the Secretary-General will ensure that the programmes of the Secretariat related to public administration and development are fully coordinated with the governance programmes of the United Nations system as a whole. The Administrative Committee on Coordination, which is chaired by the Secretary-General, is the most appropriate forum in which to achieve this, and this objective will be vigorously pursued by him.

71. One of the key themes in the present report is the need for the United Nations system to integrate civil society into its efforts to consolidate

democratic development. Although a rapid process of democratization can favour increased social and political participation and improved freedom of expression, on a number of occasions the same process may create severe social and economic problems. Widespread disillusion with the results of democratization has direct political consequences on electoral processes and government policies and, in certain instances, can even lead to the unravelling of the process of democratization itself. A key concern is therefore the mobilization of non-governmental organization sectors in support of democratization and for the provision of essential social and other services in a manner complementary to the efforts of Governments.

72. As emphasized earlier, in the delicate conditions prevalent in new and restored democracies, there is a need to coordinate what may otherwise be disjointed actions of non-governmental organizations not only with governmental plans, but also with assistance provided by bilateral donors and multilateral organizations. The United Nations system should redouble its efforts to facilitate the coordination of these processes at a time when public and private aid and resources are shrinking worldwide. Duplication should be avoided.

73. Securing democratic development in new or restored democracies requires an active collaboration between the various actors engaged in the endeavour. Despite efforts to improve coordination in the past, much remains to be done. Greater interaction and coordination between Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the business sector would facilitate the creation of conditions for further democratization to take place in the decades to come. It is hoped that these partners in democratization will find ways to meet and work together more frequently and effectively than is presently the case. At the same time, these members of the international community will, it is hoped, take steps to establish innovative institutional frameworks at global, regional and local levels in order to further this cooperation. The challenges of the future deserve a comprehensive and integrated approach to democratization, as much as for peace and development, in full realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

ANNEX I

Requests from Member States to the United Nations system for electoral assistance in 1989-1996, as at August 1996 a/

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Albania	February 1992	March 1992	Provided technical assistance. Elections held in March 1992.
	June 1996		Rejected request for observers for the rerun elections held on 16 June 1996 owing to insufficient lead time.
Algeria	August 1995	September-November 1995	Provided observation (follow and report) c/ for presidential elections held on 16 November 1996.
Angola	May 1991 d/	April-December 1992	Provided verification and technical assistance. Presidential and legislative elections held in September 1992.
Argentina	September 1992	November 1992-June 1994	Provided technical assistance. Elections held in October 1993.
Armenia	January 1995	February-August 1995	Provided coordination and support (jointly with OSCE). Legislative elections held on 5 and 19 July 1995.
	July 1996	Under consideration	Request for coordination and support. Presidential elections scheduled for 22 September 1996.
Azerbaijan	May 1992		Rejected request for observers for the presidential elections to be held on 7 June 1992 owing to insufficient lead time.
	August 1993		Rejected request for observers for the referendum held on 29 August 1993 owing to insufficient lead time and absence of enabling environment.
	June 1995	June-December 1995	Provided coordination and support (jointly with OSCE). Parliamentary elections held on 12 November 1995.
Bangladesh	February 1995	March 1995	Conducted needs assessment mission and provided a technical report.
	May 1996	May-July 1996	Provided technical assistance. Elections held on 12 June 1996.
Belarus	May 1994		Rejected request for observers for the presidential elections held on 23 June 1994 owing to insufficient lead time.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Benin	March 1995	March 1995	Provided coordination and support (UNDP). Legislative elections held in March 1995.
	February 1996		Rejected request for observers for the presidential elections held on 3 March 1996 owing to insufficient lead time.
Brazil	November 1993	December 1993-ongoing	Providing technical assistance. General elections held in October 1994. Assisting in improving computerized electoral system.
Burundi	December 1992 e/	May and June 1993	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. Presidential and legislative elections held in June 1993.
Cambodia	October 1991 f/	November 1991-June 1993	Provided organization and conduct. Elections held in May 1993.
	June 1996	Under consideration	Request for technical assistance to the local elections scheduled for the end of 1997 and for the general elections in May/June 1998.
Cameroon	February 1992	February and March 1992	Provided observation (follow and report). Legislative elections held in March 1992.
Cape Verde	November 1995		Rejected request for financial assistance for the organization of the municipal elections on 21 January 1996 owing to lack of funds.
Central African Republic	June 1992 e/	October 1992	Provided coordination and support. General elections held in October 1992.
	July 1993	August and September 1993	Provided observation (follow and report). General elections held in August and September 1993.
Chad	December 1992	January-April 1993	Provided technical assistance in connection with the National Conference held from January to April 1993.
	January 1995	March 1995-July 1996	Provided technical assistance. Presidential elections held on 2 June and 3 July 1996.
	February 1996	March-July 1996	Provided coordination and support. Presidential elections held on 2 June and 3 July 1996.
Colombia	February 1993	June 1993-December 1994	Provided technical assistance.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Comoros	October 1995	November 1995-March 1996	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. Presidential elections held on 6 and 16 March 1996.
	May 1996	Under consideration	Request for assistance for the constitutional referendum to be held on 8 September and legislative elections on 6 October 1996.
Congo	July 1992	July and August 1992	Provided observation (follow and report). Presidential elections held in August 1992.
	November 1992	May 1993	Provided coordination and support. Legislative elections held in May 1993.
	March 1995		Rejected request for observers for the last phase of the legislative elections to be held on 9 April 1995 owing to insufficient lead time.
Côte d'Ivoire	April 1995	July-November 1995	Provided coordination and support. Presidential elections held on 22 October and legislative elections on 26 November 1995.
Djibouti	August 1992	September 1992	Provided observation (follow and report). Referendum held in September 1992.
	November 1992	December 1992	Provided coordination and support. Legislative elections held in December 1992.
	March 1993	May 1993	Provided coordination and support. Presidential elections held in May 1993.
Dominican Republic	April 1996		Rejected request for observers for presidential election held on 16 May 1996 owing to insufficient lead time.
Eastern Slavonia (Croatia)	January 1996 g/	Under preparation	Organization and conduct requested under agreements. Preliminary survey mission conducted in May and technical needs assessment mission conducted in July 1996.
El Salvador	June 1992	August 1992	Provided technical assistance.
	January 1993	April 1993-March 1995	Provided verification plus technical assistance. General elections held in March and April 1994.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Equatorial Guinea	March 1993	April 1993-September 1995	Provided technical assistance. Municipal elections held on 17 September 1995.
	July 1993		Rejected request to send observers for the elections scheduled to take place in September 1993 because of absence of enabling environment. The elections were subsequently postponed to November 1993.
	August 1995	September 1995	Provided coordination and support. Municipal elections held on 17 September 1995.
	January 1996		Request for observers rejected owing to insufficient lead time. Presidential elections held on 25 February 1996.
Eritrea b/	May 1992	January-May 1993	Provided verification and technical assistance. Referendum on independence held from 23 to 25 April 1996.
Estonia	June 1992		Rejected request for observers for the referendum to be held on 28 June 1992 owing to insufficient lead time.
Ethiopia	April 1992	May 1992-March 1994	Provided coordination and support and technical assistance. Regional elections held in June 1992 and national elections in June 1994.
Fiji	July 1995	July-December 1995	Provided technical assistance for the preparation of papers on power-sharing in multiethnic societies.
Gabon	October 1993	November and December 1993	Provided follow and report and technical assistance. Presidential elections held in December 1993.
	May 1995	Under consideration	Conducted a needs assessment mission in July 1995. Future assistance under consideration.
Gambia	April 1995	May 1995-ongoing	Providing technical assistance. Presidential and legislative elections scheduled for July 1996.
Ghana	April 1992		Offered to coordinate international observers instead of sending observers for the presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in November and December 1992. Government rejected United Nations offer.
Guinea	March 1992	May 1992-December 1993	Provided technical assistance and follow and report. Presidential elections held in December 1993.
	April 1995	June 1995	Provided observation (follow and report). Legislative elections held in June 1995.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Guinea-Bissau	December 1992	January 1993-August 1994	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. General elections held in July 1994.
Guyana	June 1992	June-October 1992	Provided technical assistance. Elections held in October 1992.
	February 1996	March 1996-ongoing	Providing technical assistance. General elections scheduled for 1997.
Haiti	July 1990	November 1990-January 1991	Provided verification and technical assistance. General elections held in December 1990 and January 1991.
	September 1994	October 1994-January 1996	Provided technical assistance. Legislative elections held in June and September 1995 and presidential elections on 17 December 1995.
Honduras	March 1994	June 1994-March 1995	Provided technical assistance.
Hungary	April 1994		Rejected request for observers for the parliamentary elections to be held on 8 May 1994 owing to insufficient lead time.
Kenya	November 1992	December 1992-January 1993	Provided coordination and support. Legislative elections held in December 1992.
Kyrgyzstan	December 1994	January-March 1995	Provided observation (follow and report) and assessment of post-electoral support. Parliamentary elections held in February 1995.
	October 1995	October-December 1995	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. Presidential elections held on 24 December 1995.
Latvia	May 1993		Rejected request for a United Nations delegation to observe the elections for the 5th Saeima (Parliament) to be held in June 1993 because of insufficient lead time.
	April 1994		Rejected request for observers for the local authorities elections to be held in May 1994 because of insufficient lead time.
Lesotho	August 1991	November and December 1991	Provided technical assistance.
	October 1992	December 1992-March 1993	Provided coordination and support. General elections held in March 1993.
Liberia	February 1992	May 1992	Provided technical assistance.
	July 1993	August 1993-ongoing	Providing verification and technical assistance (currently in abeyance).

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Madagascar	March 1992	April-December 1992	Provided technical assistance and follow and report. Constitutional referendum held in August 1992. Presidential elections in November 1992 and February 1993 and legislative elections in June 1993.
	April 1994		After requesting observers for the municipal and local elections to be held in July 1994, the Government did not answer the United Nations offer to coordinate and support observers. Elections did not take place.
Malawi	October 1992	November 1992-June 1993	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. Referendum held in June 1993.
	October 1993	November 1993-December 1994	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. Presidential and parliamentary elections held in May 1994.
Mali	September 1991	December 1991-April 1993	Provided technical assistance and observation (follow and report). Elections held in April 1992.
Mexico	April 1994	June 1994-May 1995	Provided support to national observers. Elections held in August 1994.
Mozambique	October 1992 i/	October 1992-December 1995	Provided verification and technical assistance. Presidential and parliamentary elections held in October 1994.
Namibia j/	1978 k/	1989	Supervision of the elections held from 7 to 11 November 1989.
	July 1994	May-December 1994	Provided coordination and support. General elections held in December 1994.
Netherlands Antilles	June 1993	August-November 1993	Provided United Nations representation on the Referendum Commission of Curaçao.
	June 1994	October 1994	Provided United Nations representation on the Referendum Commission of St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and Saba.
Nicaragua	March 1989	August 1989-March 1990	Provided verification and technical assistance. Elections held in February 1990.
	November 1993	December 1993-March 1994	Provided coordination and support and sent a team of observers from ONUSAL. Elections (Atlantic Coast) held in February 1994.
	September 1995	Under consideration	Needs assessment missions conducted in March and April 1996. Future assistance under consideration.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Niger	June 1992	December 1992-March 1993	Provided coordination and support. Referendum held in December 1992, legislative elections in February 1993 and presidential elections in February and March 1993.
	December 1994	December 1994-January 1995	Provided technical assistance. Parliamentary elections held in January 1995.
	March 1996	March 1996-ongoing	Providing technical assistance. Presidential elections to be held on 7 and 28 July 1996.
Palestine 1/	December 1995		Rejected request for observers because observation was to be coordinated by the European Union. Some logistical support provided by UNRWA. Elections held on 20 January 1996.
Panama	November 1993	December 1993-February 1996	Provided technical assistance.
Paraguay	April 1993	May and June 1993	Provided technical assistance and observation (follow and report). General elections held in May 1993.
Peru	1992 c/	July 1992-December 1995	Provided technical assistance.
Philippines	November 1992 c/	April and May 1993	Provided technical assistance.
Republic of Moldova	January 1994	February and March 1994	Provided observation (follow and report). Parliamentary elections held in February 1994.
	February 1995		Rejected request for observers for the referendum held on 5 March 1995 owing to insufficient lead time.
Romania	1990 c/	April and May 1990	Provided technical assistance.
	September 1992	September and October 1992	Provided observation (follow and report). Parliamentary and presidential elections held in September and October 1992.
	May 1996		Rejected request for observers for the local elections to be held on 2 June 1996 owing to insufficient lead time.
Russian Federation	October 1993	December 1993	Provided observation (follow and report). Federal Assembly elections held in December 1993.
Rwanda	May 1992	June 1992	Provided technical assistance.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Sao Tome and Principe	August 1994	October 1994	Provided observation (follow and report). Legislative elections held in October 1994.
	November 1995		Rejected request for material and financial assistance owing to lack of funds.
	June 1996		Rejected request for observers for the presidential elections held on 30 June 1996 owing to lack of time and financial resources.
Senegal	February 1993	March-May 1993	Provided observation (follow and report). Presidential and legislative elections held in February and May 1993.
Seychelles	June 1992	July 1992	Provided observation (follow and report). Elections held in July 1992.
	July 1993	July 1993	Provided observation (follow and report). Presidential and legislative elections held in July 1993.
Sierra Leone	September 1993	October 1993	Provided technical assistance (survey mission).
	March 1994	June 1994-March 1996	Provided technical assistance and coordination and support. Presidential and parliamentary elections held on 26 February and 15 March 1996.
South Africa	December 1993	December 1993-May 1994	Provided verification. General elections held in April 1994.
Sudan	January 1996		Needs assessment mission conducted. Rejected request for observers. Presidential and parliamentary elections held on 6 and 17 March 1996.
Swaziland	May 1993		Rejected request for financial assistance for the parliamentary elections to be held in 1993 owing to unavailability of indicative planning figure funds.
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	September 1994	October 1994	Provided observation (follow and report). Presidential and parliamentary elections held in October 1994.
Togo	April 1992	May-December 1992	Provided technical assistance. Referendum held in September 1992.
	July 1993	August 1993	Provided observation (follow and report). Presidential elections held in August 1993.

Member State	Date of request	Period of assistance	United Nations response b/
Uganda	October 1992	November 1992-December 1994	Provided coordination and support and technical assistance. Constitutional elections held in March 1994.
	May 1995	February 1996-ongoing	Providing technical assistance. Presidential elections held on 9 May and parliamentary elections on 27 June 1996.
	April 1996	April 1996	Provided observation (follow and report) and assistance to the coordination of the activities of international observers. Presidential elections held on 9 May and parliamentary elections on 27 June 1996.
Ukraine	January 1994	March 1994	Provided observation (follow and report). Parliamentary elections held in March 1994.
	June 1994	June 1994	Provided observation (follow and report). Presidential and local elections held in June 1994.
United Republic of Tanzania	June 1995	April-November 1995	Provided coordination and support. General elections in Zanzibar held on 22 October and on 29 October in Tanzania. Elections in Dar es Salaam were repeated on 19 November 1995.
Uzbekistan	October 1994	November and December 1994	Provided observation (follow and report). Parliamentary elections held on 25 December 1994.
Western Sahara l/	April 1991 m/	1991-ongoing	Mandated to provide organization and conduct. Mission currently in abeyance.
Yemen	June 1996	Under consideration	Technical assistance and coordination of donors assistance requested. Parliamentary elections scheduled for 27 April 1997.
Zaire	May 1996	Under consideration	Request for technical assistance received. Needs assessment missions conducted in June and July 1996.
Zambia	July 1996	Under consideration	Request for observers received. Parliamentary elections scheduled for October 1996.

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to annex)

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a/ Namibia (1989) and Eritrea (1993) were not Member States at the time electoral assistance was provided. Palestine and Western Sahara are not Member States.

b/ See A/49/675, annex III, for definitions of the seven different types of possible United Nations responses to requests for electoral assistance.

c/ This form of assistance was previously referred to as "follow and report".

d/ Date of the signing of the Estoril Agreements.

e/ Approximate date.

f/ Date of the signing of the Paris Agreements.

g/ Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1037 (1996), UNTAES was established on 15 January 1996 with a mandate to organize elections, assist in their conduct, and to certify the results.

h/ Eritrea became a Member State on 28 May 1993.

i/ Date of the signing of the General Peace Agreement.

j/ Namibia became a Member State on 23 April 1990.

k/ Under the Plan for the Independence of Namibia, approved by the Security Council in its resolution 435 (1978), the United Nations was mandated to supervise the elections for a Constituency Assembly.

l/ Not a Member State.

m/ Pursuant to Security Council resolution 690 (1991), the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara was established.

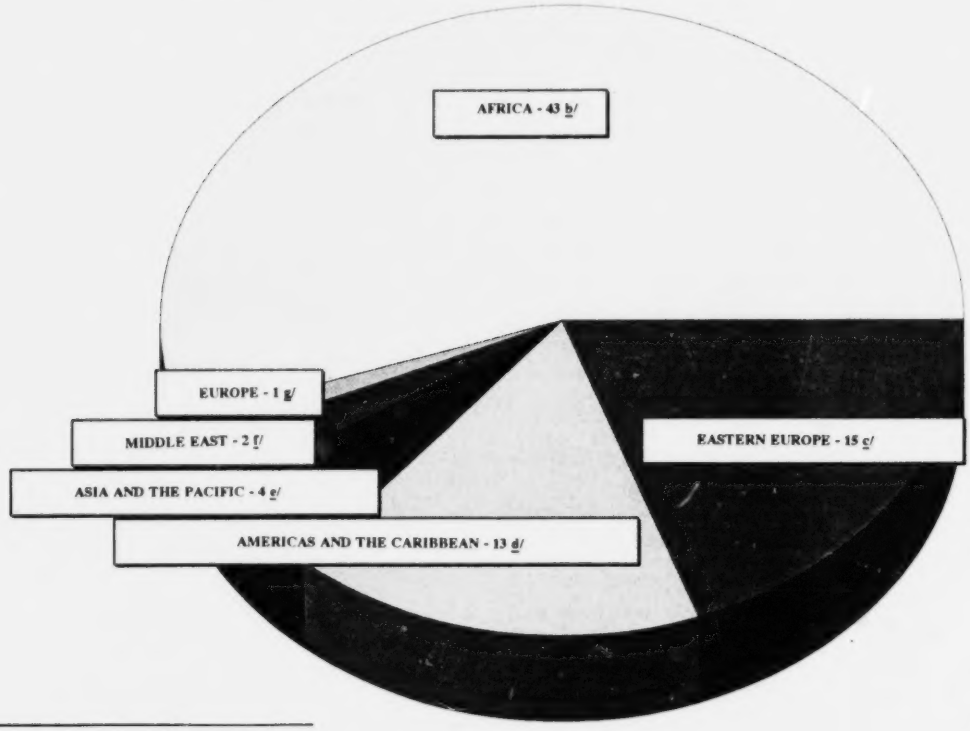
ANNEX II

Electoral assistance statistics, 1989-1996

A. Number of requests from Member States for electoral assistance per year

Year	Number of Member States	Number of requests	Number of requests accepted or under consideration	Comments
1989-1991	8	8	8	Excluding Namibia and including the request for United Nations organization of the referendum in Western Sahara.
1992	31	33	30	Including the request from Eritrea, which was not a Member State at that time.
1993	22	23	19	Including the request for United Nations representation at the Referendum Commission of Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles.
1994	17	18	14	Including the request for United Nations representation at the Referendum Commission of St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and Saba, Netherlands Antilles.
1995	22	22	17	Including the request for United Nations observation of elections in Palestine.
1996	19	19	11	Up to 7 August 1996.
Total		123	99	

B. Total number of Member States having requested assistance since 1989 a/



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a/ 76 Member States
2 Non-member States (Palestine and Western Sahara)
78

b/ Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Western Sahara, Zaire and Zambia.

c/ Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia (Eastern Slavonia), Estonia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

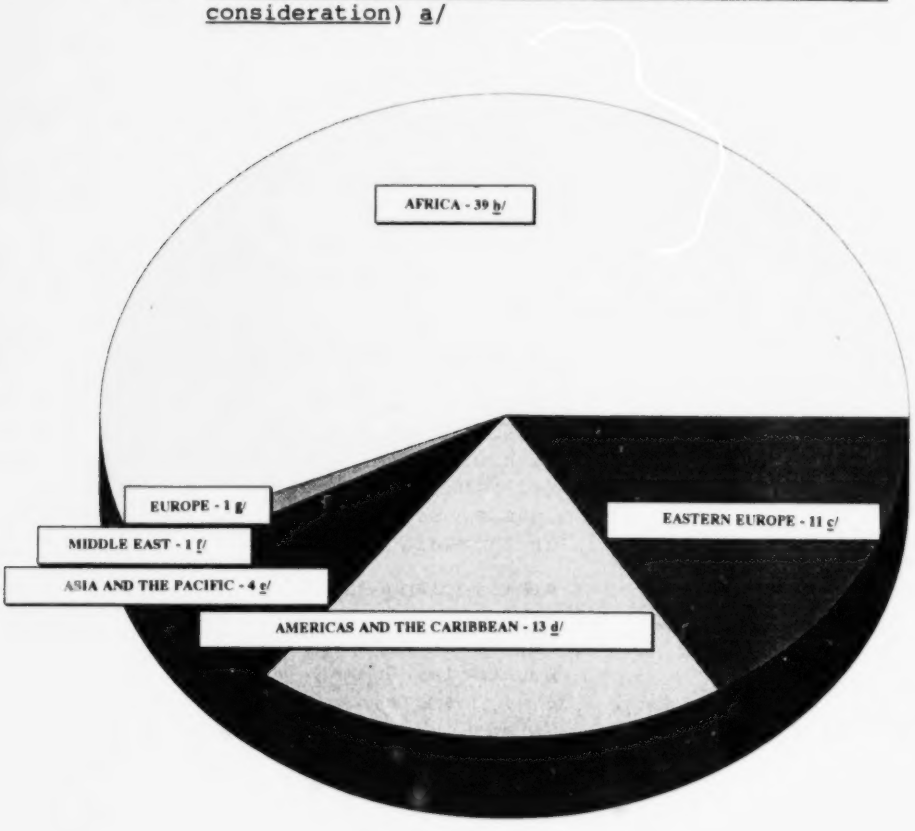
d/ Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.

e/ Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji and the Philippines.

f/ Palestine and Yemen.

g/ The Netherlands Antilles.

C. Total number of Member States assisted (or under consideration) a/



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a/ Total: 69 Member States.

b/ Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Western Sahara and Zaire.

c/ Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

d/ Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.

e/ Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji and the Philippines.

f/ Yemen.

g/ The Netherlands Antilles.

D. Types of assistance provided a/

Type of assistance	Number (comment)	Country
Organization and conduct	1 (provided)	Cambodia
	1 (in preparation)	Croatia (Eastern Slavonia)
	1 (in abeyance)	Western Sahara
Verification	7 (provided)	Angola, El Salvador, Eritrea, Haiti, Mozambique, Nicaragua, South Africa
	1 (in abeyance)	Liberia
Coordination and support	25 (provided)	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Benin, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti (x2), Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi (x2), Namibia, Nicaragua, the Niger, Uganda, Sierra Leone, the United Republic of Tanzania
Technical assistance	48 (provided or being provided)	Albania, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh (x2), Brazil, Burundi, Chad (x2), Colombia, Comoros, El Salvador (x2), Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana (x2), Haiti (x2), Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia (x2), Madagascar, Malawi (x2), Mali, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger (x2), Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone (x2), Togo, Uganda (x2)
Follow and report/ observation	27 (provided)	Algeria, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea (x2), Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mali, Netherlands (Antilles) (x2), Paraguay, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles (x2), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine (x2), Uzbekistan
Training of national observers	1 (provided)	Mexico

a/ In several cases, more than one type of assistance was provided for different elections. Namibia (supervision) is not included in these statistics.